

Urge Caution to Prevent FOREST FIRES This Season

Farmers and others planning on burning trash, new ground or other debris are urged to do so before March 1 in an appeal released today by State Forester George W. Dean. "Burning and general clean-up which is done during the cold, wet winter weather while the ground is too wet to plow is good management as well as good fire prevention," the State Forester said.

It is unlawful, according to the State official, to burn brush, trash, sedge or other debris until after 4:00 P. M. daily during March, April and the first fifteen days of May. These are the worst forest fire months of the year and every precaution must be used to avoid destructive blazes. In view of the scarcity of men to fight fires, tremendous destruction to Virginia forests may occur this spring unless fires can be prevented.

In the spring of 1939, the year previous to the enactment of the delayed brush burning legislation by the General Assembly and its adoption by counties, brush, sedge and debris fires caused 576 forest fires which burned an area of 25,632 acres, as compared with 1944 when there occurred from burning only 100 forest fires, burning an estimated 2,138 acres. Fires caused by brush burning are particularly destructive since most fires escape from their origin do so on dry, windy spring days when a fire burns hot and fast. It is during this period while the sap is up in the trees that fires are most destructive. At this period of the year large quantities of potential game are destroyed through the destruction of eggs, and young birds or animals too small to escape the flames.

Most of Virginia's forest fires occur in the spring season.

Save our game! Prevent forest fires!

Watch what you do with that cigarette stub! Prevent forest fires!

W. W. O'Brien is the forest fire warden for Appomattox County.

Resolution by Co. Supervisors

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Appomattox County held at the Court House of said County on the 14th day of February, 1945:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

That since the forests of our county are being cut over rapidly and are in need of lumber for the war industries, and

As such logging operations have created heavy slashings and serious fire hazards, and

As the State forest wardens are finding it increasingly difficult to employ men and to provide transportation for fire fighters, and

As far too many fires occur in the county, of which nine out of ten are man caused and preventable, and

As there is great danger that destructive forest fires will occur during the Spring fire season and a serious effort is made by the Board of Supervisors to prevent them from starting, and

As the Board of Supervisors is cooperating with the Virginia Forest Service in the Prevention and control of forest fires and wishes all citizens to extend all possible assistance in this war emergency, that

Each Citizen of Appomattox County be requested to be extremely careful to prevent forest fires and that they fight small fires and report all fires to wardens. All citizens are also requested to observe the following forest fire prevention rules:

SMOKERS
Crush out your cigar, your cigarette, your pipe ashes.
Hold match until glow is gone.
Break or pinch to be sure it's out.
Dead Out.

CAMPERS
Down your campfire; then stir and add more water before you leave.

BRUSH BURNERS
Build Fire Break. Rake or plow a clean strip wide enough to hold fire.
Have Tools and Help. Have rakes and water ready. Call in your neighbors to help control fire.

BURN AFTER 4:00 P. M. when calm. Burn down hill and against air currents.
Put Out Smoldering Fires. Drown with water. Cover with earth. Be sure every spark is out!

March set aside for the national Red Cross war fund drive.

Let us do your job printing.

Never throw a burning match, cigarette, cigar or pipe tobacco in brush or across.

CAMPERS
Down your campfire; then stir and add more water before you leave.

BRUSH BURNERS
Build Fire Break. Rake or plow a clean strip wide enough to hold fire.

Have Tools and Help. Have rakes and water ready. Call in your neighbors to help control fire.

Burn after 4:00 P. M. when calm. Burn down hill and against air currents.

Put Out Smoldering Fires Out. Drown with water. Cover with earth. Be sure every spark is out.

SAW MILLS
Spark Arrestors: Install and keep in repair.

Mit Yard and Slab Pit: Locate safe distance from forest as recommended by law. Fire proof the mill and around the slab pit, by cleaning up and burning all inflammable debris.

—George Abbott, Jr. Chairman
A copy: Teste: C. W. Smith, Clerk.

ABC'S OF PREVENTION
Build Fire Break. Rake or plow a clean strip wide enough to hold fire.

Have Tools and Help. Have rakes and water ready. Call in your neighbors to help control fire.

Burn After 4:00 P. M. when calm. Burn down hill and against air currents.

Put Out Smoldering Fires. Drown with water. Cover with earth. Be sure every spark is out!

March set aside for the national Red Cross war fund drive.

Let us do your job printing.

State Forester Says--

By George W. Dean
State Forester

Based on reports submitted by Virginia forest wardens, 1,475 forest fires burned 28,779 acres, or only 21,100 of one per cent of the area protected, during the calendar year 1944. This is the smallest number of fires and the smallest number of acres burned in the history of the Virginia forest warden organization during any one year. As a way of comparison, during the average year over the period 1939-1943, there occurred 5,752 fires which burned 110,505 acres, or 81.1 per cent of one per cent of the protected area. During 1943 alone there occurred 2,528 fires with a burned area of 102,251 acres or 77.100 of one per cent of the protected area.

This outstanding accomplishment was made possible only through cooperative response of Virginia's citizens to the appeal of her forest wardens to observe the ABC's of forest fire prevention during the dangerous fire months of March, April and May.

Inspection of the report showed that 31 per cent of all fires originated from thoughtless, but careless, smokers who failed to break their matches in water, or crush out their cigarettes and other smoking material. Fires, escaping from persons carelessly burning brush, sedge or trash, caused 22 per cent of all fires. Fires escaping from brush burning are often more destructive, since a fire does not generally escape from this source except during dry, windy, danger weather when fires burn hot and fast.

Damage to timber, buildings, fences, pulwood, etc., was estimated at \$280,000.00 in addition to large numbers of game birds and animals killed in the nest while too young to escape flames. An inspection of the forest wardens' law enforcement activities showed that out of 201 cases brought before the courts, 182 resulted in convictions, and the amount of \$3,059.32. In addition, persons responsible for 4 fires paid fire fighting costs in the amount of \$5,285.38. Suppression costs were collected, or legal action was successfully instituted in 151 fires or 36 per cent of the fires reported, which is the highest per cent on the records of the Forest Service.

Timber is one of our great resources. Save it from fire!

For The Asking
We offer a comprehensive knowledge of insurance and a keen appreciation of agency service.

J. A. Burke & Co.
General Insurance Agents
Appomattox, Va.
Phone 4902.

PREVENT FIRES

REMEMBER THESE RULES:
Crush out your cigarette, cigar or pipe ash.
Break your match in two.
If you burn slash, first—get a permit. Last—kill every spark.

OUR CARELESSNESS IS THE GREAT DANGER

U. S. carrier-based planes carry the war to Tokyo.

Big Three agree on future borders for Poland.

Observe the rules for burning of trash and brush.

White cheerful letters to those in the armed service. Use V-mail.

Call the fire warden in event of a forest fire.

PICTURE QUIZ



PROBLEM: LOOK AT THIS PICTURE FOR 10 SECONDS THEN, SEE IF YOU CAN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW

- Q. What are these Forest Rangers doing?
A. They are replanting land denuded by forest fires.
- Q. How many forest fires does America suffer each year?
A. The United States has an average of 210,970 forest and woods fires every year.
- Q. Is the burned area extensive?
A. It is almost unbelievable. Each year forest and woods fires burn over 31,000,000 acres—more acres than there are in the whole of New York State!
- Q. What causes forest fires?
A. 10 percent of all forest and woods fires are the result of lightning. 90 percent are man caused!
- Q. What can be done about forest and woods fires?
A. Little can be done about the 10 percent resulting from lightning. But the other 90 percent, caused by carelessness on the part of average American citizens, can and must be prevented.
- Good Americans—perhaps you, your neighbors, your friends—are the guilty ones. Of course you don't intend to start fires that kill little trees—tomorrow's timber—as well as big ones. But that's no excuse. So please be more careful than ever. Read the rule on this page. Ask your friends to read them—to learn them by heart—to follow them in all forest and woodland areas.

This Message Sponsored By

O. T. JAMERSON & SON

This Message Sponsored By

W. C. OULD

All right, WHO IS TO BLAME?



Most Americans have the idea that forest and woods fires are just one of those things . . . bad, but unavoidable. Maybe if Americans knew the truth about who really starts the majority of these fires, they would change their tune.

Here are the facts: 10 percent of all forest and woods fires are the result of lightning. Not much can be done to prevent them. But . . . 90 percent are caused by good American citizens, like you, and something can be done about that!

Something must be done about the wholesale razing of America's forests and woodlands. Every year an average of 31,000,000 acres is burned over—more than in the whole State of New York.

You and your friends can help! Please read the rules on this page . . . read them again . . . memorize them . . . tell others about them. Then be careful in all forest and woodland areas. Do your part to help prevent fires!

MEMORIZE THESE RULES

1. Crush out your cigarette, cigar, your pipe ash.
2. Break your match in two. When you can hold the burned end between your fingers—play safe, use the ash tray.
3. Drawn your campfire; then stir and draw it again.
4. If you must use fire: First, ask if it is a permit. Next, have help handy. Last, kill every spark!

MEMORIZE THESE RULES

1. Crush out your cigarette, cigar, your pipe ash.
2. Break your match in two. When you can hold the burned end between your fingers—play safe, use the ash tray.
3. Drawn your campfire; then stir and draw it again.
4. If you must use fire: First, ask if it is a permit. Next, have help handy. Last, kill every spark!

GOVERNOR DARDEN SAYS . . .

"Let's Fight Forest Fires—By Preventing Them"

Forest Fire Prevention Rules
VIRGINIA FOREST SERVICE

- SMOKERS**
- CRUSH OUT your cigar, your cigarette, your pipe ashes.
 - HOLD MATCH until glow is gone.
 - BREAK OR PINCH to be sure it's out—DEAD OUT.
 - NEVER THROW a burning match, cigarette, cigar or pipe tobacco in brush or grass.

- CAMPERS**
- DROWN your campfire, then stir and add more water before you leave.

- BRUSH BURNERS**
- BUILD FIRE BREAK. Rake or plow a clean strip wide enough to hold fire.
 - HAVE TOOLS AND HELP. Have rakes and water ready. Call in your neighbors to help control fire.
 - BURN AFTER 4:00 P. M. when calm. Burn down hill and against air currents.
 - PUT SMOLDERING FIRES OUT. Drown with water. Cover with earth. Be SURE every spark is out.

An Appeal to the Citizens of Virginia

OUR FORESTS are also Fighting for Democracy. For every man sent overseas 300 board feet of lumber is required to box and crate his initial supplies—50 board feet a month thereafter. There are 1,200 different items of military and naval equipment, all or part of which are made of wood.

Wood is a critical war material. It is a vital peacetime material. We must protect our forests to provide wood for present and future military purposes and to sustain wood-using industries, vital to war and peace.

There are fewer men to watch for and fight wood-consuming forest fires. Great conflagrations may occur unless we stop fires from starting.

LET'S FIGHT FOREST FIRES THIS YEAR BY PREVENTING THEM—BY NOT BEING CARELESS.

I URGE ALL OF OUR CITIZENS TO BE MOST CAREFUL IN THE OBSERVANCE OF THE FOREST FIRE PREVENTION RULES APPROVED BY THE VIRGINIA FOREST SERVICE.

(Signed) COLGATE W. DARDEN,
Governor of Virginia

Let's Heed Our Governor's Appeal

The publication of this appeal to protect our forest resources is made possible through the courtesy of

The Board of Supervisors of Appomattox County